

[0073] The fifth wheel hitch 620, however, may include legs 624 configured to engage all eight of the mounting members 88 and 388 of the fifth wheel mounts 28 and 328. By utilizing eight mounting points, the fifth wheel hitch 620 may be capable of operating under a load of approximately 30,000. As shown in FIG. 13, the leg 624 may include a first side 628 and a second side 632 opposed from one another. The first side 628 may selectively and operatively engage with the first transverse member 48 or 348 and the second side 632 may selectively and operatively engage with the second transverse member 56 or 356. The present application describes a single one of the legs 624. It should be understood that the remaining leg may be of substantially similar configuration and will not be described in detail herein.

[0074] Each of the first and second sides 628 and 632 of the leg 624 may include mounting feet 636 configured to operatively and selectively attach with both of the mounting members 88 (or 388) on the first and second transverse members 48 and 56 (348 and 356). Each of the mounting feet 636 may be of substantially equivalent configuration. For the sake of brevity, a single one of the mounting feet 636 will be described herein. The mounting feet 636 may be configured to be inserted into and through the applicable mounting members 88 (388). A pin (not shown) may be inserted into an aperture in operative communication with the mounting members 88 (388) securing the mounting feet 636 to the applicable mounting members 88 (388). While the mounting feet 636 are shown and described as being substantially equivalent, the present teachings are not limited to this configuration. Each of the mounting feet 636 may be a different configuration, or any one of the mounting feet 636 may be of substantially equivalent configuration.

[0075] Each of the mounting feet 636 may include a mounting plate 640. The mounting plate 640 may be of any appropriate configuration. The mounting plate 640 may be attached to the leg 624 in any appropriate manner, including, without limitation via welding, adhering or fastening. The mounting plate 640 may provide additional stability and load capacity to the leg 624.

[0076] The mounting feet 636 may also include a pair of pin mounts 644 attached with the mounting plates 640. The pin mounts 644 may be configured to be inserted into and operatively engaged with the applicable mounting members 88 (388) as described above. The pin mounts 644 may be attached with the mounting plates 640 in any appropriate manner, including, without limitation, adhering, welding or fastening. The pin mounts 644 may act as both mounting lock to the towing vehicle (rails or adapter) and closeout/reinforcement for added strength to the legs 624.

[0077] The fifth wheel hitch 620 may include a saddle mount 648 that operatively secures the leg 624 with a head. The saddle mount 648 may be wider and heavier than other saddle mounts. Further the saddle mount 648 may include additional internal reinforcements.

[0078] Further, as shown in FIG. 14, the legs 624 may include at least one internal reinforcement member 656. The reinforcement member 656 may be positioned within the leg 624. Specifically, the leg 624 may generally circumscribe the reinforcement member 656. The reinforcement member 656 may be of any appropriate configuration. The reinforcement member 656 may reinforce the legs 624 such that they are capable of handling additional loads.

[0079] The leg 624 may be wider than traditional legs of fifth wheel hitches and may include a wider skirt. Further, the leg 624 may be formed from higher strength material. The combination of these features, including having the reinforcement member 656 may increase the bending and torsional stiffness and resistance to fracture in the legs 624. This ultimately may provide a stronger fifth wheel hitch 620 capable of handling higher loads, i.e., loads of at least 30,000 pounds.

[0080] While the fifth wheel hitch 620 is shown and described as being selectively affixed to the fifth wheel hitch mounts 28 and 328, the present teachings are not limited to such. By way of a non-limiting example, the fifth wheel hitch 620 may be operatively and selectively attached to the under bed hitch mounting system disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 8,414,009, which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0081] Although the embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated in the accompanying drawings and described in the foregoing detailed description, it is to be understood that the present invention is not to be limited to just the embodiments disclosed, but that the invention described herein is capable of numerous rearrangements, modifications and substitutions without departing from the scope of the claims hereafter. By way of non-limiting example, other accessories may be attached to the vehicle utilizing the under bed quick-connect fifth wheel hitch, such as bike racks, ramps, storage containers, etc. The claims as follows are intended to include all modifications and alterations insofar as they come within the scope of the claims or the equivalent thereof.

I claim:

1. A fifth wheel hitch comprising:
 - a leg comprising first and second sides;
 - a mounting foot attached with each of the first and second sides; and
 - a pair of mounting members extending from each of the mounting feet.
2. The fifth wheel hitch of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a second leg comprising third and fourth sides;
 - a second leg mounting foot attached with each of the third and fourth sides;
 - a second pair of mounting members extending from each of the second leg mounting feet.
3. The fifth wheel hitch of claim 1 further comprising a saddle member attached between the first and second sides.
4. The fifth wheel hitch of claim 1 further comprising an internal reinforcement member positioned between the first and second sides.
5. A fifth wheel hitch comprising:
 - a leg comprising first and second sides;
 - a first mounting foot attached the first side;
 - a second mounting foot attached with the second side;
 - a pair of mounting members extending from the first mounting foot; and
 - a pair of second mounting members extending from the second mounting foot.
6. The fifth wheel hitch of claim 5, wherein the pair of mounting members and the pair of second mounting members are selectively engageable with mounting members of a fifth wheel mount.
7. The fifth wheel hitch claim 5, wherein the pair of mounting members is of equivalent configuration with the pair of second mounting members.